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T070197

1. Location of Reading Room: Idaho Operations Public Reading Room 1776 Science Center Dr. University Place Idaho Falls, ID 83403	2. Expected Release Date: May 30, 1995		
3. Document Type: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"><tr><td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> Letter</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Report</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Publication</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Press Release: Subject: COORDINATION LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF TEST 4-2-1-5-56 SNAP</div></div></td><td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"><div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>a. If letter or memo: To: From: Subject:</div><div>b. If report: Title:</div></div></td></tr></table>		<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div><input type="checkbox"/> Letter</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Report</div><div><input type="checkbox"/> Publication</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Press Release: Subject: COORDINATION LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF TEST 4-2-1-5-56 SNAP</div></div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>a. If letter or memo: To: From: Subject:</div><div>b. If report: Title:</div></div>
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4. Document Date: June 9, 1965	c. If publication: Name: Volume: Issue:		
5. Summary (2-3 lines indicating the major subject(s) of the document): Message from M. C. Corbett to H. Mueller requesting HQS coordination of text of proposed ID local announcement of new SNAPTRAN test series planned for release June 14, 1965, "Core Damage Possible in Forthcoming AEROSPACE Reactor Safety Tests at NRTS."			
6. Name and telephone number of person completing form: Thomas L. Baccus (208) 525-0696	7. Organization: Lockheed Idaho Technologies Co.	8. Date: May 19, 1995	

☐ Check here if a copy of the document is being sent to Headquarters.

HUMAN RADIATION EXPERIMENTS

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REPOSITORY NAME	INEL
COLLECTION NAME	SNAPTRAN
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Cross references:

Items of Interest:

JUN 09 1965

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SNAPTRAN

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4-2-1-5-56 SNAPTRAN-3 Press

FOLDER

Release Local Announcement
of Test

VZCZCSAA742

RR RUEPAE

DE RUWPSA 8 09/1758Z

ZNR

R 091755Z

FM USAEC IDAHO FALLS IDAHO

TO USAEC WASHDC

AEC

BT

UNCLAS FOR JAMES D LYMAN, DPI INFO ERNEST A HALL, DRD ATTN
HARVEY MUELLER, DRD FROM MACK C CORBETT. REOURTELECON FOLLOWING
FOR HQS COORDINATION IS TEXT OF PROPOSED ID LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENT
OF NEW SNAPTRAN TEST SERIES PLANNED FOR RELEASE JUNE 14 CLN

CORE DAMAGE POSSIBLE IN FORTHCOMING AEROSPACE REACTOR SAFETY
TESTS AT NRTS.

A NEW SERIES OF SAFETY TESTS INVOLVING A SNAP 10A TYPE
AEROSPACE REACTOR AT THE NATIONAL REACTOR TESTING STATION IN IDAHO
IS EXPECTED TO APPROACH POWER LEVELS THAT COULD DAMAGE THE CORE,
THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION/S IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE ANNOUNCED

2-1-5-36

TODAY.

THE SERIES IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ABOUT JUNE 15 1965.

SAFETY PROCEDURES FOR EACH TEST WILL BE BASED ON THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE CORE WILL BE COMPLETELY DESTROYED, AND ALL TESTS WILL BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE SURVEILLANCE OF AN EXTENSIVE ON-SITE MONITORING EFFORT, ACCORDING TO W L GINKEL, MANAGER OF THE AEC/S IDAHO OFFICE.

THE STRICT METEOROLOGICAL AND OPERATING CONTROLS ARE TO ASSURE THAT THE TESTS WILL NOT CREATE A HAZARD TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC OFF SITE OR TO EMPLOYEES AT THE NRTS.

THE TEST REACTOR, CALLED SNAPTRAN-1 /SYSTEMS FOR NUCLEAR AUXILIARY POWER TRANSIENT TEST-1/, IS SIMILAR TO THE ONE WHICH RECENTLY OPERATED IN SPACE FOR 24 DAYS. SNAPTRAN-1 HAS BEEN OPERATED AT NRTS SINCE FALL 1964 IN A PROGRAM OF KINETICS STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE TEMPERATURE EXPANSION EFFECTS CAUSED BY BOTH SUDDEN AND GRADUAL CHANGES IN THE RATE OF FISSIONING AND, CONSEQUENTLY, IN THE REACTOR/S POWER LEVELS.

THE NEW TESTS ARE BEING PLANNED TO OBTAIN DATA ON TEMPERATURE, PEAK POWER, AND ENERGY RELEASE IN REGIONS NOT PREVIOUSLY EXPLORED AND TO DETERMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF CORE DAMAGE UNDER THESE MORE EXTREME OPERATING CONDITIONS. AN IMPORTANT GOAL IS LEARNING MORE

PAGE 3 RUWPSA 8 UNCLAS

ABOUT THE KINETIC BEHAVIOR OF SNAP 10A ZIRCONIUM HYDRIDE-URANIUM
FUEL, WHICH ALSO HAS POTENTIAL FOR OTHER SMALL REACTOR SYSTEMS.

ALTHOUGH POWER LEVELS FOR THE FORTHCOMING TESTS ARE EXPECTED
TO BE HIGH, THEY WILL BE MUCH LESS THAN IS PLANNED FOR THE
DELIBERATE DESTRUCTIVE TEST OF A SIMILAR REACTOR CALLED SNAPTRAN-2,
TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER OF THIS YEAR. A THIRD UNIT
/SNAPTRAN-3/ IN THE CURRENT AEROSPACE REACTOR SAFETY PROGRAM AT NRTS
WAS DELIBERATELY DESTROYED APRIL 1 1964 IN A WATER IMMERSION TEST.

OI CLN MCC CLN 7862

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